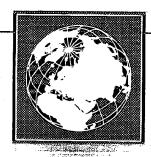


Director of Central Intelligence

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Selected Items From the National Intelligence Daily

Monday, 27 February 1995









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MEXICO:	Congress To Debate Financial Package, Amnesty
	Both houses will meet in special sessions, probably beginning on Thursday, Debate on the financial package may prove contentious; the leftist opposition has called the requirement that oil revenues be used as collateral "treason" and will lead the attack.
	— Finance Secretary Ortiz will be asked to appear, and some ruling-party legislators are likely to join the opposition in voting against the package.
	A congressional committee proposal aimed at restarting peace talks with the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) also will be debated.
	— The plan recommends creation of a "peace zone" where talks with the EZLN would take place, outlines a program for governing Chiapas, and includes an amnesty agreement that President Zedillo has suggested.
	Congressmen sponsoring the proposal claim they have the support of Government Secretary Moctezuma and Chiapas mediator Ruiz,
	The Mexican Congress historically follows the president's wishes in national policy matters, and the large ruling-party majority is likely to endorse the financial package eventually. Furthermore, the development of the Chiapas strategy by a multiparty committee probably will help smooth its passage.
	— If ruling-party hardliners see the peace proposal, particularly the new plan for governing Chiapas, overly lenient to rebels, they probably will object.
Trade Figures Encouraging	Meanwhile, Mexico's staggering trade deficit was reduced by nearly 70 percent from the previous month to about \$450 million in January. Compared with last January, exports were up by 35 percent while imports increased by only 8 percent.